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HISTORICAL ADDRESS

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

CITIZENS OF WALTHAM,

JULY 4, 1876,

BY

JOSIAH RUTTER.

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE CELEBRATION OF THE DAY.

1877.

For Reference

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PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION.

On the 25th of May, 1876, the President of the United States issued the following Proclamation:—

WHEREAS, a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States was duly approved on the 13th day of March last, which resolution is as follows:

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:*

"That it be and is hereby recommended by the Senate and House of Representatives to the people of the several States, that they assemble in their several counties or towns, on the approaching centennial anniversary of our national independence; and that they cause to have delivered on such day an historical sketch of said county or town from its formation; and that a copy of said sketch may be filed, in print or manuscript, in the clerk's office of said county, and an additional copy in print or manuscript, be filed in the office of the librarian of Congress, to the intent that a complete record may thus be obtained of the progress of our institutions during the first centennial of their existence.

Whereas, It is deemed proper that such recommendation be brought to the notice and knowledge of the people of the United States.

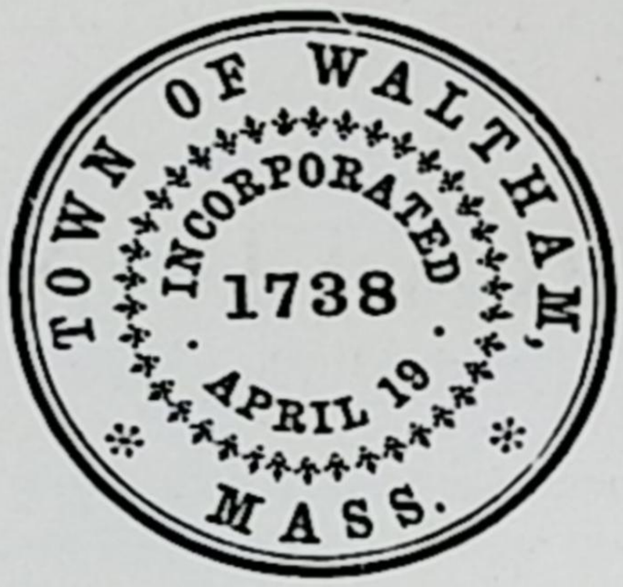
Now, therefore, I, Ulysses S. Grant, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known the same, in the hope that the object of such resolution may meet the approval of the people of the United States, and that proper steps may be taken to carry the same into effect.

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, the 25th of May, in the year of our Lord 1876, and of the independence of the United States the one hundredth.

U. S. GRANT

By the President.

HAMILTON FISH, *Secretary of State.*



At a town meeting held March 19, 1877, it was—

Voted, That the Selectmen be directed to cause to be published in proper form and in numbers according to their judgment a sketch of the Centennial exercises of July 4th, 1876, including the Historical Address of Josiah Rutter, Esq.

E. B. ARMSTRONG,
TIMOTHY LEARY,
CHAS. H. BILL,
B. C. BATCHELDER,
L. S. FOSTER.
} *Selectmen.*

ORATION.

In the Spring of 1630 there would seem to have been quite a fever in the mother country for emigration to America. In the course of a few weeks seventeen vessels sailed from different ports on the English coast, bringing over some prominent men, such as Gov. Winthrop, Sir Richard Saltonstall, Henry Bright and others. A number of these had made Salem their destination and there they landed. Not, however, feeling satisfied with the place, they in the course of a few days removed to Charlestown. Here again they were disappointed, and going up Charles River about four miles they finally selected as a permanent location, a spot to which with other territory was afterwards given the name of Watertown. Here with Sir Richard Saltonstall as their leader, and the Rev. George Phillips as their

Pastor, they established a home and formed a church, the covenant of membership having been signed by forty men, most of them heads of families.

As originally established and chartered Watertown included what is now embraced in the towns of Weston, Waltham, Watertown and part of Lincoln. And so it remained for nearly a hundred years. In 1713, Weston became a separate town. From this time what was afterward set off as Waltham, was known as the West Precinct of Watertown, an ecclesiastical rather than a municipal designation. In 1720 a church was formed, and soon after a meeting-house was erected on the spot near the Lyman mansion, where afterwards a more commodious house was built which remained until 1840. During the one hundred and twenty years, from 1720 to 1840, there were but three Pastors of this society, the Rev. ~~William~~ Warham Williams officiating from 1720 to 1752; the Rev. Jacob Cushing from 1752 to 1809; and the Rev. Samuel Ripley from 1800 to 1840.

In 1738, Waltham was incorporated as a town. It is remarkable that we do not find on some of the records some intimation of the origin of the name given to our town. We know that various meetings were held in the West Precinct in reference to the change, that formal notice of the intended application was served upon the town of Watertown, and that a petition was present-

The original First-Church was purchased of Newton in 1720 for £80.
No views of the Meeting House exist; and no idea can be formed of the style of the building, or its appearance, further than an old one. It must have been a plain and simple edifice. That happy age of holy men, our forefathers, knew not how to build stately Churches; but under any roof they offered themselves living temples unto God.
A.M.R

ed to the General Court asking for its incorporation. But in none of these is found any suggestion of the name intended to be given to the new town. The probability is that it was proposed by some one of the inhabitants who came from the vicinity of Waltham Abbey, in Essex County, England. Waltham gained about six hundred acres of territory by annexation from Newton in 1849, and lost on its northeast corner by the incorporation of Belmont in 1859.

It may seem strange that from the time of the incorporation of the new town, for a good number of years so little should have occurred within its borders to become matter of history. And yet it is not wanting of a satisfactory explanation. The territory of Waltham had always been a sort of middle or border land between two well known and thrifty towns. And this continued to be its character long after the establishment of the new town. The inhabitants were a farming community, occupying the rich and productive lands in the northerly section of the town, in preference to those nearer the river which were of an inferior quality. It was a town that had no centrality. The Post-office, after one was established, was in the vicinity of Beaver Brook where there was a public house and a store, and the same, with the exception of the Post-office, was at the extreme west end of the town. And thus it continued until the

Boston Manufacturing Company, in 1813, commenced operations attracting to their own location the business and population, and giving to the town a business centre.

Thus it happens that from 1738 to 1775 we hear in history but little of Waltham. But we are not to infer from this that her people took no interest or had no part in the stirring events of that busy period. During those forty years, to say nothing of the battles with the Indians, the most important engagements of the French war occurred. Within a period of fifty years, war between France and England had been three times proclaimed and peace three times declared. Every fresh declaration of war involved a fresh warfare between the French and English possessions in America. Besides the troubles between England and France, Massachusetts had grievances of its own against the French colonies which required her attention. France held the island of Cape Breton upon which was the strongly built fortress of Louisburg. From this were sent out privateers to prey upon the fisheries and commerce of New England. In 1744, an expedition was fitted out for the capture of this stronghold consisting of four thousand men. The expedition with the aid of the English fleet proved successful, and Louisburg was captured. In 1754, Massachusetts, aided to some extent by the other colonies and by England, conquered Nova

Scotia and Canada. These expeditions to the Canadas were voluntary acts of the soldiery of Massachusetts. Yet no warfare in this country has ever involved a greater amount of privation and suffering. The march from Massachusetts to the Canadian frontier was enough to deter the most hardy from the adventure. A good part of the distance they were to travel through an unbroken wilderness, thick, gloomy, dark, repulsive enough to drive the wild beast of the forest back despairing to his den. Yet all these trials and sufferings they willingly endured as loyal subjects of England. And when the war was closed and peace was again declared between France and England, they laid down their captured possessions, the Canadas, Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, as a brilliant prize at the foot of the British throne. And yet within ten years from that time England commenced and continued that series of usurpations and wrongs which finally forced the colonies on the 4th of July, 1776, to declare themselves free and independent, forever absolved from all allegiance to the crown of England. We have no means of knowing what number of soldiers went from Waltham or any other town on these expeditions to Canada. It was a voluntary service requiring no municipal action. But from the fact, as we shall see in connection with another subject, that Waltham appropriated money for the payment

of the soldiers who were engaged, we shall be satisfied that Waltham did her portion of the service.

It would be expected that with 1775 would commence a period when we should meet with some items of historical interest in connection with our town. The remarks made in partial explanation of the comparative silence of our records in reference to the French and Indian wars, will apply here also. It would seem to have been a town always ready to discharge every duty which fell to its lot, but composed of a people not easily excited and requiring, it may be, some outside influence fully to develop the sentiment of patriotism or a sense of the wrongs inflicted upon the country. They were evidently a cautious, considerate yet determined race of men. The battle of Lexington and Concord was fought on the 19th of April, 1775. Yet although there were frequent town meetings about that date, both before and after, we find no mention of that event. It is probable, however, that the act of the Selectmen under the date of May 13, 1775, was caused by the battle, and that was in these words:

"May 13, 1775, the Selectmen delivered out to the soldiers, whose names are hereafter given, a good blanket agreeable to recommendation of the Provincial Congress, they being enlisted in the service of Massachusetts for the defence of the liberties of America."

Then follow forty-five names headed by the name of

Eliphalet Hastings, probably forming the Company which went to Bunker Hill a few weeks after.

The Battle of Bunker Hill was fought June 17, 1775. Yet our records show no reference to this battle until nearly a year after, June 11, 1776, when we find the following entry:

"At a meeting of the Selectmen, June 11, 1776, they ordered the Treasurer to pay Josiah Wyer for a bayonet which was lost in the engagement on Bunker Hill by Eliphalet Hastings."

But yet we find enough to assure us that the people of Waltham were in full accord with the popular sentiment of the times. I have said they were a cautious, considerate, conservative race of men. Down to a very late period the people of the colonies had had no occasion to find fault with the British government. They had not sought independence. They were no unwilling subjects of Great Britain. They had fought under her flag side by side with their English brethren, and under commanders appointed by the king. And when conquest followed victory, they laid down the prize, even though it were a continent, a free offering to their royal master. But yet, when wrong, or insult, or oppression came, bravely though still cautiously they set their houses in order for resistance.

The various Stamp acts were passed from 1765 to 1771. The colonies resisted their execution. England

threatened force and sent an army to Boston for that purpose. In August, 1774, a convention of the towns of Middlesex County was held at Concord to take counsel together. Waltham was represented, and at a town meeting held September 30th, the action of the convention was approved and the following vote was passed. It will be observed that it was couched in very cautious language. And well it might be, for a step further would have meant *treason:*

"Voted and chose a committee for other towns to send to on any emergency, and they to send to other towns on any emergency."

"At a meeting held June 9, 1775, the question was put, to know the minds of the town whether they will be prepared and stand ready equipped as Minute men? And the town answered in the affirmative."

"At a meeting held June 25, 1776, it was voted to procure money and pay each non-commissioned officer and soldier who shall enlist for the town's proportion in the present expedition to Canada—six pounds, six shillings and eight pence on their passing muster."

At a meeting held May 27, 1776, and called for this purpose—

"The question being put to know the mind of the town whether they will advise their Representative that if the Hon. Congress should for the safety of the united colonies declare them independent of the kingdom of Great Britain, they, the said inhabitants, will solemnly agree with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure; and it passed in the affirmative."

A committee of the town, after a long and laborious investigation, on the 16th of October, 1778, made their Report to the town showing sundry amounts due to different inhabitants for military service, or for money contributed for the support of the soldiers during the Revolutionary and Canadian wars. One would judge, from the long list of names, that it must include every adult male inhabitant, and shows that the people must have responded liberally to every military requisition. The whole amount ordered to be paid was over £3,300. The first company of soldiers named in the Report is that of the eight months men, so called, containing thirty names, with that of Col. Jonathan Brewer at its head. Col. Brewer commanded a regiment at Bunker Hill and he undoubtedly had with him his Waltham Company. He was brought home wounded at midnight and his wounds were dressed by Dr. Marshall Spring. He must have been a prominent and influential man, for we find in George Bancroft's History, that the Provincial Congress at Watertown received from Col. Jonathan Brewer of Waltham, a proposition to raise five hundred men for an expedition to Quebec. He kept a public house at the corner of Main and Gore streets,* opposite Warren street.

The war of 1812, it is well remembered by many now living, was unpopular in New England and particularly

* Main St. that time was called "Sudbury Road".
Gore St. was the "Driftway".

A M R

in Massachusetts. It was thought to be an attack upon our commerce, and it was believed that it would drive our mercantile marine from the waters of the world. Some opposition was felt and manifested here as well as in most important places in New England. But yet the records show that every requisition of men and money was promptly met, and that in addition to the compensation paid by the government, the town generously rewarded its own soldiers.

On the 12th of April, 1861, an attack was made on Fort Sumter in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, by an army of ten thousand organized rebels, prepared with all the appliances of modern warfare for the reduction of a fortified position. The people of New England, of the entire North, and here as much as anywhere, were aroused beyond measure or description. All party feeling was lost. There prevailed but one common feeling of resentment and a determination at whatever hazard, to preserve the Union and to maintain the authority of the government. A meeting of the citizens was called, at which resolutions were passed calling upon the town for immediate action. At a meeting of the town held for the purpose on the 26th of April, it was voted to provide each soldier with a uniform, to pay him ten dollars a month for five months' service, and during his absence to make provision for the support of

his family. Every call made during the war for men or means was promptly met by the authorities. The town expended for war purposes $95,000, of which $42,000 was repaid by the State, and sent to the war seven hundred men. Of these, fifty-three were killed in battle or died from disease contracted in the service. Their names, are, we trust, imperishably engraven on yonder monument, to remind our children and our children's children to the latest posterity, of their names, and of the cause in which they died. It is meet, it is proper, it is a duty that the town should hold their memories in grateful remembrance, for it is to their efforts and to those of their comrades in arms, that we are indebted, that to-day we have a country, untrodden by the foot of the slave, with the flag of the Union still floating over our heads.

The Rumford Institute should not be forgotten in anything purporting to be a history of Waltham. It has been to the town, emphatically, an institution of learning. It was established fifty years ago under the auspices of the Manufacturing Company, and antedates every institution of the kind in the country, and we believe in the State. The Company provided the hall for its exercises and also gave it the income of the hall when let for other purposes. In this way they had a fund for the increase of their library, which accumulated to some

thousands of volumes, and on the establishment of the public library, was given to the town.

At the commencement of the century, there were two school houses in the town. We now have twelve houses containing thirty-two schools of the various grades, with thirty-nine teachers. The average daily attendance upon the schools is about 1,500. The appropriation for schools in 1875 was $34,171.00.

The total valuation of the town of Waltham for 1875 was $10,131,770.00 The entire debt at the close of the last year was $497,350.00, of which $260,000 is for the water loan. The estimated value of property belonging to the town is $681,900.00.

The population of Waltham in 1775 was about 800. Its increase down to the time when manufacturing commenced here, had been but little. In 1830, the population was about 2,500. It is now about 10,000.

The Boston Manufacturing Company commenced their works in Waltham in 1813. For many years it was the most notable manufacturing town in the State. It was of sufficient importance to induce a visit from Henry Clay, the great orator and statesman of the West. The original capital was $100,000. Paul Moody was the first agent, and Francis C. Lowell was the first treasurer, who is said to have been the inventor of the power loom. In 1820 the Bleachery was established, turning out

about one ton of goods per day. In 1868 the Hosiery Works were started, which now turn out about 5000 dozens of their goods per week. At the present time the capital of the company is $800,000. They have 40,000 spindles, turning out 45,000 lbs. of goods per week. The Bleachery now daily finishes up 15 tons. Their cotton goods have sold at different periods as follows: from 1813 to 1816 at 30 cents per yard; in 1819 at 21 cents; in 1826 at 13 cents; in 1829 at 8 1-2 cents; and 1876 at 8 1-2 cents.

The town of Waltham is much indebted to the Boston Manufacturing Company, not only for the business character it gives the place, but for its uniformly liberal treatment of the town. There was never any feeling of antagonism between the two. Lest the establishment might seem to be a burden to the town, the company for a long period provided a school-house and teacher for the district. The town and the company always worked together in harmony. It ought not to be forgotten on an occasion like the present that for much of this we are indebted to two men, now deceased, who for a long period had charge of the works here. Both of them were men of culture and refinement, with a dignity of demeanor which secured respect, and a geniality of disposition which won confidence and esteem. They felt a warm interest in the welfare and prosperity of

the town, and as occasion allowed, exerted an influence in its favor. Whenever as citizens of Waltham we are counting up the men and the events which have helped to make her what she is, our minds will not fail to rest upon the manly forms, the gentle bearing, the clear intelligence, and the practical sagacity of Ebenezer Hobbs and Isaac W. Mulliken.

Nothing has of late occurred in Waltham to give such an impulse to its prosperity and the increase of its population, as the establishment of the American Watch Company here, about 1857. These works have been a marked success. Other factories have since been established, but they must all look back to this as their origin and model. They employ about 1000 hands and put out about 300 watches daily. The section of the town in which they are located has been built up almost entirely by them or on account of the vicinity of their works. The great success of this establishment is due to the energy, perseverance, and executive ability of its business manager, Royal E. Robbins.

We have another industrial establishment rapidly growing in importance and extent. Our Iron Foundry has become well known through the country, and particularly in the west for its manufacture of gas pipe and water pipe and gas machinery. The facilities for extension possessed by the company are such as induce the

belief that it is to become the leading establishment of the kind in our vicinity.

The Bank, now known as the Waltham National Bank, was established in 1835. It now has a capital of $150,000. The Waltham Saving Bank has deposits amounting to over $1,200,000. In 1856 the Waltham Sentinel was establisned by Josiah Hastings; in 1863 the Waltham Free Press, by George Phinney. Both papers are still conducted by their original proprietors.

Did time admit there are many other important industrial interests to which I would gladly refer.

We commenced the century now brought to a close with one church and one meeting-house supported by force of public authority. We have now eight churches answering to the different constitutional tendencies of the human mind, with houses of worship combining every element of beauty, taste and convenience, each sustained by the free contributions of its respective members. We began with means for the education of the young, limited in character and extent. We enter upon a new century with the ability to offer to the poorest of our children, instruction in all the higher departments of human learning. Commencing the century with a town without a business centre, before the half of that century had elapsed it had become an important business centre and market for a large surrounding territory. Fifty

years ago, a daily stage to Boston, run by men still living among us, placed us far in advance of all our neighbors. Now every half hour of the day, a half hour's ride in a car, for comfort and convenience rivalling the most luxurious domestic accommodations, brings us to the gates of the city. We have a public library of 8,000 volumes, three printing offices, and two newspapers. A well organized fire department, furnished with steam appliances and having the river for an exhaustless reservoir, protects, so far as human agency can do so, against the most resistless of the elements. A century ago we had a population of farmers, with probably a single representation of each of the common mechanical trades. We close up the century with extensive manufacturing establishments, in cotton and wool, and iron and brass, and silver and gold, giving employment to thousands of our inhabitants and affording support to more than one-half our entire population. Our fathers sent to England or France for a time keeper of the simplest construction. We have now in our midst a factory employing a thousand hands and turning out daily three hundred watches, which have the reputation of being the best timekeepers in the world, and finding a market on both sides of the Atlantic. Our town has the credit of introducing the first power loom in America, and of establishing the first watch manufactory in the world. We have given

to the State two governors, two Representatives to the National Congress and one Speaker of the National House of Representatives. Instead of the tallow candle of 1775, our steeets and our dwellings are lighted by gas. Our houses and stables are supplied with water from a fountain exhaustless as the ocean, fresh and pure as the mountain lake. Photography, steam, the railroad and the telegraph have accomplished all imaginable possibilities of improvement in their respective spheres, leaving us only to wonder what of the undiscovered and unknown can be yet left in the bosom of the future, bye and bye to burst upon the astonished vision of another generation.

CELEBRATION OF THE DAY.

At some preliminary meetings of the citizens of Waltham for the purpose of taking measures to commemorate the centennial anniversary of national independence in accordance with the President's proclamation, a general committee of ladies and gentlemen was appointed to make the appropriate arrangements. The first meeting of the committee was held on Wednesday evening, June 21st, at the Reform Club Rooms, and was called to order by Mr. Alden Jameson, the chairman, who in a brief address stated the object of the committee and the nobility of its work. The committee was permanently organized by the choice of Dr. Edward Worcester as chairman; and L. H. Weeks as secretary.

Various sub-committees were chosen with reference to special parts in the order of exercises for the day. The different committees to which were assigned the details of the celebration were as follows:

COMMITTEE ON ORATION AND

COMMEMORATIVE EXERCISES.

S. O. Upham, Nathan Warren,
B. B. Johnson, Rev. J. C. Parsons,
Laroy Browne.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Francis Buttrick,
Timothy Leary,
S. O. Upham,
Alden Jameson,
E. W. Fiske,
Thos. P. Smith,
Luman N. Hall,
L. C. Lane,
J. W. Fairbanks,
Geo. B. Williams,
Zenas Parmenter,
Wm. A Roberts..

COMMITTEE ON DECORATION.

Mrs. Chas Johnson,
" Anna Eddy,
" Alvin Bolton,
" Alonzo Bowers,
" Charles Clark,
Miss Josephine M. Jameson,
Mrs. E. L. Burnham,
" H. F. Warren,
J. Fred Moore,
E. L. Barry,
Geo. Osgood,
Geo. A. Flagg.

COMMITTEE ON PROCESSION.

Wm. Locke,
L. C. Lane,
J. J. Harvey,
John Haynes,
Ephraim Stearns,
H. C. Hall,
E. W. Lane,
H. N. Fisher,
J. T. Prince.

COMMITTEE ON HOURS OF PROGRAMME.

Wm. Locke,
B. B. Johnson,
Alden Jameson,
N. Warren,
L. N. Hall.

COMMITTEE ON SALUTES.

Francis Buttrick,
C. H. Bill,
Timothy Leary,
Rufus Warren,
Alden Jameson,
Wm. Locke,
L. C. Lane.

COMMITTEE ON REGATTA AND AQUATIC SPORTS.

Wm. Gibbs,
H. P. Bartlett,
J. G. Miller,
E. L. Barry,
J. J. Harvey.

COMMITTEE ON ATHLETIC SPORTS.

T. J. Barton,
A. M. Ryan,
B. B. Johnson,
G. Frank Frost,
Edgar Emerson.

COMMITTEE ON MUSIC AND SINGING.

J. W. Colby,
J. W. Fairbanks,
Miss Charlotte Farwell.
" M. J. Miles.
Rev. J. C. Parsons.

COMMITTEE ON FIREWORKS.

Dr. E. Worcester,
T. P. Smith,
Rufus Warren,
Nathan Warren.

The chairmen of the several committees were *ex officio* an Executive Committee.

After subsequent meetings of the committee the following Programme was arranged:

National salutes and ringing of church bells at sunrise, noon and sunset.

Religious services at 8 A. M.

Grand military and civic procession at 9 A. M.

Commemorative exercises at 10½ A. M.

Regatta and aquatic sports at 2 P. M.

Athletic sports at 4 P. M.

Children's concert at 6 P. M.

Fireworks in the evening.

A large tent was erected on the Common, and Rumford Hall was kept open during the day for the convenience and pleasure of the public, especially the younger portion, while a band of music was in constant attendance, and an opportunity afforded for dancing.

Early in the morning a procession of Antiques and Horribles under the Marshalship of H. C. Hall, paraded through the streets.

The religious services took place in the tent at the Common, and were conducted by the Clergymen of the town in the following order:

Invocation and reading Scriptures, by Rev. Benton Smith.
Hymn.
Prayer, by Rev. W. W. Colburn,
Remarks, by Rev. E. C. Guild.
Hymn.
Remarks, by Rev. F. D. Bland.
Hymn.
Prayer, by Rev. E. E. Strong.
Benediction.

Services were also held at the Episcopal church, conducted by the Rector, Rev. T. F. Fales, and at the Catholic church High Mass was held at 6 o'clock in the morning, by the Rev. Bernard Flood.

The grand military and civic procession formed on Main street, opposite the Common, and marched through the principal streets under the charge of Major L. C. Lane, as Chief Marshal, with A. W. Sherman, Wm. Gibbs, Ephraim Stearns, John Handrahan and Thomas Miles as aids.

It was composed of Company F, 5th Regiment, M. V. M., Capt. Laroy Browne; the Firemen and Ex-firemen; Grand Army Post; Emmet Literary Association; Mutual Relief Societies; Ancient Order of Hibernians; Reform Club; other societies and organizations; Drum Corps; carriages containing young ladies representing the several States, and others dressed in the costumes of the olden time, and representatives of trades and professions. It made a display eminently worthy of the town and the occasion, and formed an attractive feature of the day.

The Commemorative exercises were held in the tent and were attended by a large assemblage of our citizens.

They were arranged and conducted as follows:

Singing—by a chorus from the several choirs in town—"The Star Spangled Banner."

Prayer, by Rev. T. F. Fales.

Singing—"Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean."

Reading of the Declaration of Independence, by Albert C. Reed.

Singing—Whittier's "Centennial Hymn."

Historical Address, by Josiah Rutter, Esq.

Singing—"America"—by the whole audience.

The Regatta and Aquatic sports took place upon the river and consisted of boat and tub races.

The Athletic sports were of various kinds and came off on the Common.

The Children's Concert took place in the tent on the Common. The singing was by several hundred children from the public schools under the leadership of Mr. L. B. Marshall. This was a beautiful and spirited feature of the celebration, and furnished a fitting close for the public exercises.

Among the pieces sung was the following original Hymn, composed for this occasion by Mr. Geo. Phinney :

WALTHAM CENTENNIAL FOURTH OF JULY HYMN.

A hundred years have come and gone
And left their impress o'er our land
Since first the Nation's right was won
Among the powers of earth to stand.

As backward turns the quest'ning glance
And scans the bright historic page,
The nodding plume and glistening lance
Mark the fierce conflicts of the age.

We read of gallant deeds and brave,
Inspired by love that patriots feel
Who count their lives but naught, to save
Their country's honor and its weal.

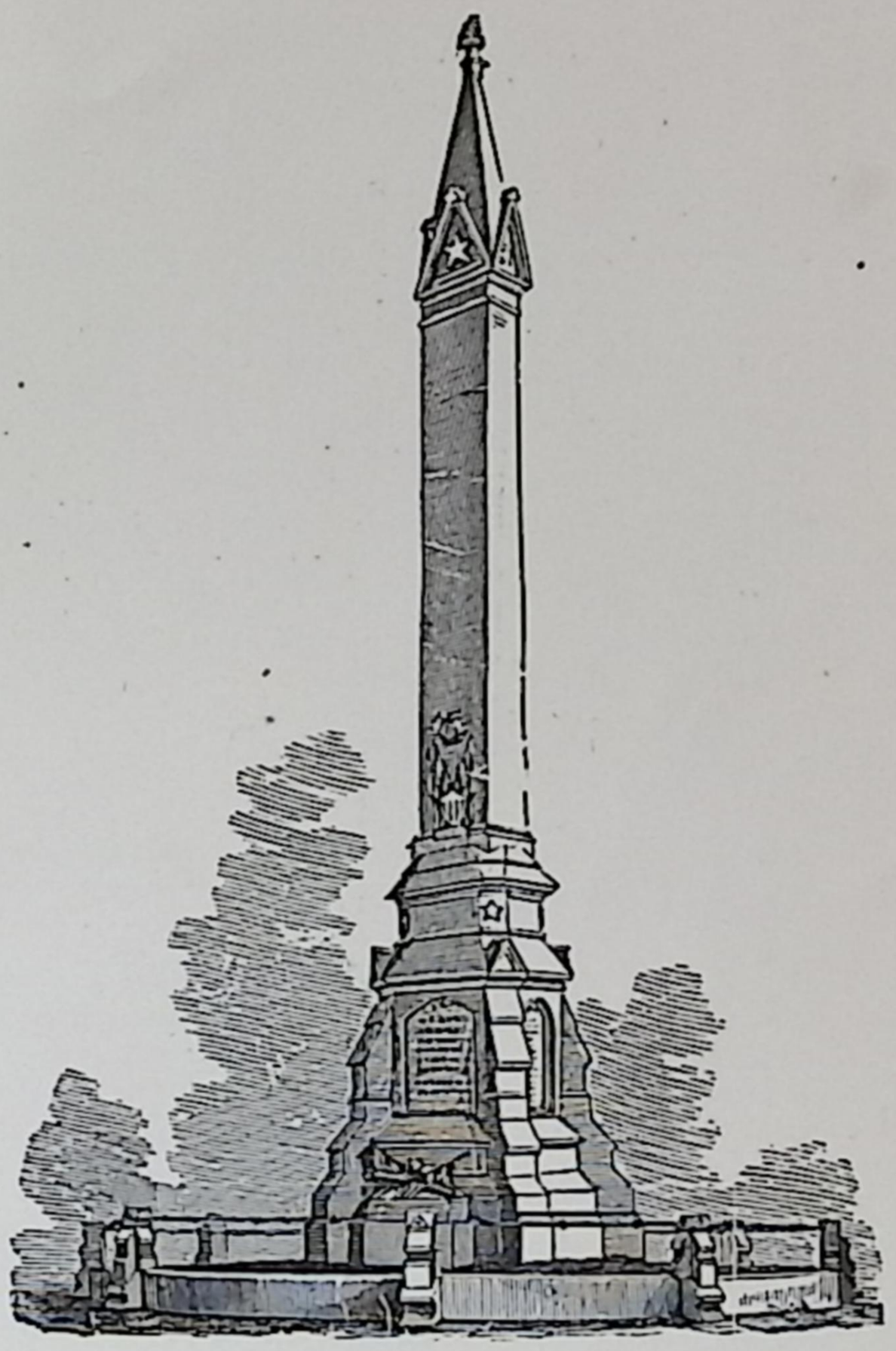
Ah, not in vain a hundred years
Have rained their golden blessings down,
If we as well our places fill
As sires we with our homage crown.

The National salutes were fired by a detachment of Baxter's Battery, and the church bells were rung at sunrise, noon, and sunset. In the evening a fine display of fireworks with music was given on the Common.

The martial music for the day was furnished by the Waltham Band, the orchestral music for the hall and singing by Hull's Quadrille Band.

In concluding this brief and official account of the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of our National Independence, it may not be inappropriate to refer to the successful character of all the proceedings, and the pleasure and satisfaction they afforded the people. The arrangements for the celebration were made and carried out by the citizens, and all expenses were paid by voluntary subscriptions. The total expenses were $671. The townspeople generally entered heartily into the spirit of the occasion and took an active part in the recognition of the day. No accident or unhappy occurrence of any kind served to mar the festivities.

Among the many decorations of residences and buildings, those of Rumford Hall deserve more than passing notice. The interior of the Hall was most tastefully and beautifully trimmed and decorated by the ladies with flags, flowers and emblems, and presented a spectacle of artistic beauty and patriotic design. Besides the decorations were many articles of antiquity and historical association contributed for exhibition by individuals. The committee of ladies were in attendance and served to make the social features of the celebration one of the most successful and enjoyable. In all the proceedings of the celebration of the day Waltham may record with patriotic pride the part it took in the commemoration of the Centennial Anniversary of the independence of our country.



WALTHAM SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.